

REMARKS

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action, and it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 and 11 have been amended with the subject matter of claims 2, 3 and 4, and claims 2–4 have been canceled.

Claims 20–23 have been added to further describe the subject matters in the specification.

Claims 1–14 and 16–19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kim (U.S. Patent No. 5,862,468). For at least the following reasons, the Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

Kim does not disclose or teach "the first shaft and the front end of the movable member initially move in parallel with each other, when the movable member moves from the accommodation position" as recited in amended claim 1. Similar language is found in amended claim 11.

Kim discloses a sliding plate 200 connected at connection portion 210 to a push-pull member 490 at connection pieces 410 by a hinge pin (Figs. 4A–4B; col. 5, line 40–43 of Kim). In Kim, when the push-pull member 490 moves forward, the one side of sliding plate 200 connected with push-pull connecting pieces 410 rotates and the sliding plate engagement protrusions 230 are lead along the escutcheon guiding grooves 190 (Fig. 4B; col. 5, lines 50–65 of Kim). Consequently, as shown in Fig. 4B, when the Kim's hinge pin moves forward in the direction of arrow A, the sliding plate 200 moves in a direction B to lean down toward the escutcheon 100 (Fig. 4B; col. 5, lines 50–65 of Kim). It is respectfully submitted that the Kim's sliding plate moves in an orthogonal direction when the hinge pin moves in a forward direction, and the hinge pin and sliding plate do not move in parallel with each other when the sliding plate moves from the accommodation position. To the contrary, claim 1 requires that the initial

movement of the movable member in a forward direction with respect to the apparatus body, and a first shaft and a front end of the movable member initially move in parallel with each other, when the movable member moves from the accommodation position. Kim's sliding plate is rather similar to the conventional on-vehicle acoustic apparatus described in the specification (see page 3, line24-page 4, line 19 of the specification). Therefore, Kim fails to disclose or teach that the initial movement of the movable member in a forward direction with respect to the apparatus body and the first shaft and the front end of the movable member initially move in parallel with each other when the movable member moves from the accommodation position. Thus, Kim does not disclose or teach all the elements of the claimed invention.

With regards to claim 12, Kim does not disclose or teach "inserting the protruded pieces of the jig into the frame member from a front of the frame member; inserting the apparatus body including the movable member between the protruded pieces from a rear of the frame member; positioning the movable member with respect to the frame member; and fixing the apparatus body and the frame member" as recited in claim 12.

Kim discloses that the push-pull member 490 is installed at the car audio body by rivets; the sliding plate engagement protrusions 230 are pierced thorough the escutcheon guiding grooves 190; the push-pull connecting pieces 410 are lead through lower part of the escutcheon 100 to connect with the sliding plate connecting portion 210; and the sliding plate 200 is hooked to the panel 300 (col. 5, lines 18 –49).

However, Kim does not disclose or teach inserting protruded pieces of the jig into the frame member from a front of the frame member; inserting the apparatus body including the movable member between the protruded pieces from a rear of the frame member; positioning the movable member with respect to the frame member; and fixing the apparatus body and the frame member. Therefore, Kim does not disclose or teach all the elements of the claimed invention.

With regard to claims 13 and 16, Kim does not disclose or suggest "a rotating shaft of the movable member is positioned in the same place as a top of an upper end of a front surface of the movable member or is positioned forward therefrom in the forward and backward directions of the apparatus body in a condition when the movable member is set in the most erected state" as recited in claims 13 and 16.

Kim discloses a sliding plate 200 connected at connection portion 210 to a push-pull member 490 at connection pieces 410 by a hinge pin (figs. 4A–4B; col. 5, line 40–43). As shown in Fig. 4A, when the Kim sliding panel 200 is set in its most erect state, the hinge pin is positioned in the same place as the top of an upper end of a rear surface of the sliding plate. Thus, Kim fails to teach a rotating shaft of the sliding plate is positioned in the same place as a top of an upper end of a front surface of the sliding plate or is positioned forward therefrom in the forward and backward directions of the apparatus body in a condition when the sliding member is set in the most erected state. Therefore, Kim does not disclose or teach all the elements of the claimed invention.

The remaining claims in this case directly or indirectly depend on one of claims 1, 11, 12, 13 and 16, and thus are patentable for at least the same reasons as the parent claims.

Claims 20 and 22 have been added to further describe the subject matters in the specification. Kim does not disclose or suggest that "the guide groove has a substantially horizontal upper end for guiding the second shaft in a forward direction with respect to the apparatus body" as recited in claims 20 and 22.

Kim discloses guiding grooves 190 having a gentle slope longitudinally formed to lead sliding plate 200 on both side walls, however contrary to claims 20 and 22, Kim's guiding grooves do not have a substantially horizontal upper end for guiding the second shaft in a forward direction with respect to the apparatus body. Therefore, Kim does not disclose or teach all the elements of the claimed invention.

Claims 21 and 23 have been added to further describe the subject matters in the specification. Kim does not disclose or suggest that “a clearance between the frame member and the movable member is sufficiently small to make the frame member and the movable member look integral” as recited in claims 21 and 23.

Kim’s sliding plate moves in an orthogonal direction when the hinge pin moves in a forward direction, and the hinge pin and sliding plate do not move in parallel with each other when the sliding plate moves from the accommodation position. Structurally, Kim’s apparatus needs a wide clearance to prevent the sliding plate 200 from abutting against the escutcheon 100. Therefore, Kim does not disclose or teach all the elements of the claimed invention.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 35997.

Respectfully submitted,
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